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# WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA



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## PUBLISHERS' NOTES.



THE Publishers of "The Wild Flowers of America" feel gratified at the magnificent reception with which their efforts have been greeted. Before a single announcement regarding it was made in the press, favorable comment whispered from artists and botanists to a limited circle had so prepared the way for its reception that the very first view of the plates resulted in the placing of an unsolicited order with the publishers for upwards of one hundred thousand copies. Everybody of reflection and discernment now says "The Wild Flowers of America" in popular form seems to be just the thing the world was waiting for. The development of the scheme was beset with many obstacles and trials which now serve only to enhance the pleasure of success. After years of unwearied toil, careful research and immense expenditure, there has been gathered the material for presenting to the world a comprehensive work on the "Wild Flowers of America," embracing colored plates and descriptions of flowers of every State and Territory in the Union. The aim originally was to publish the work in several massive volumes for public institutions, universities and laboratories, but this intent has for a short period been widened at the solicitation of some of the principal educators of the country. When the material had been examined by many of the leaders in educational work, and its comprehensiveness thoroughly appreciated, the publishers consented as much for the sake of giving the world a real knowledge of the amazing beauty, variety and number of the wild flowers of America as for the fame it might bring to the enterprise to give for a very limited time an edition on a popular basis. It is for this reason that an opportunity is now presented, although only for a very short space of time, it is true, of procuring "The Wild Flowers of America" at a merely nominal cost. At the earnest solicitation of eminent botanists the greatest care has been exercised in the production of this work, to avoid the extravagances of color and grouping into which publishers of flower pictures are so often tempted. The motive of the work is to present the wild flowers of America as they are, as we see them, as we ought to know them and ought to remember them, preserving with the strictest truth the essential characteristics of each specimen; in short, to give the flowers so plainly that any nursery child will know the flower by the picture and the picture by the flower. Embellishment of design or artist's license in color would defeat this aim. The work will be published in parts, each part to contain not less than sixteen colored plates. Each plate will be numbered to correspond with an elaborate index, to which each owner of all the parts will be entitled without extra cost. The later parts will contain, in addition to the plates, several wonderfully interesting chapters giving curious facts about the flowers represented in the different portions of the work, the whole forming a magnificent library attraction. Subscribers are cautioned against the danger of missing any of the sections, and to this end persons intending to be absent from the city for any length of time should arrange with some friend or employee to secure for them the parts as they are issued. The demand is so enormous that it seems impracticable to guarantee to any subscriber the supply of any portion missed through neglect. While the general every-day public seem bent on absorbing the whole edition, yet the hope has all along been cherished that some special provision would be made to the end that in the scramble to secure copies school teachers and school children would have at least an equal opportunity and not get jostled aside by the crowd. The enormous educational value of the collection will suggest the wisdom of seeing that every child in America has an opportunity to become possessed of it. The original owners will feel too, no matter how great may be the number distributed, the best of all its objects will have been defeated if the teachers and school children are elbowed out of their place in the general struggle. While the collection will be prized in private libraries all over the land the opportunity to familiarize the youth of the nation with the "Wild Flowers of America" is of paramount importance.

The technical names given in this publication are those decided upon by a committee of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. They are here presented to the public for the first time, and will duly find place in the general literature of botany.



— 17 —  
 PEDICULARIS CANADENSIS.  
 WOOD BETONY—LOUSEWORT.  
 MAY.



— 18 —  
 CAULOPHYLLUM THALICTROIDES.  
 BLUE COHOSH.  
 MAY.



PLATE 17.

WOOD BETONY OR LOUSEWORT. *PEDICULARIS CANADENSIS*. (FIGWORT FAMILY.)

*Perennial; more or less hairy; stems several from a rather woody rootstock, erect, unbranched; leaves pinnatifid, the lower more deeply so; flowers in terminal, bracted spikes; corolla two-lipped, the upper lip curved, purple, the lower three-lobed, yellow.*



IN music a discord can heighten harmony. In womanly beauty, features somewhat irregular can display a charm denied to outlines precisely balanced, or symmetrically chiseled. So is it with the flowers of the field and woodland. The eye delights in departures from the pattern, the type. The turtle-head is more interesting to us than a perfectly regular flower of the same color and general form could be.

The lousewort belongs to a family of irregular blossoms, itself one of the most fantastic of them. The dark purple upper lip shoots up some distance above the lower, then arches over. Near the summit are two small teeth, so that there is somewhat of resemblance to the head of a walrus. The lower lip, usually pale yellow, is much shorter and hangs down. Rarely the whole flower is of a rich sulphur-yellow.

*Pedicularis canadensis* grows in woods throughout the greater part of North America, flowering in spring and early summer. The name *Pedicularis* is exactly the equivalent of the English name. It is hard to see why so unsavory a title was given these pretty plants. In England a kind of *pedicularis* is known as "Red Rattle," because the seeds rattle about in the pods.

PLATE 18.

BLUE COHOSH. *CAULOPHYLLUM THALICTROIDES*. (BARBERRY FAMILY.)

*Smooth; stem erect from a thick rootstock, bearing a large three-times-compound leaf and one or two smaller ones above, leaflets thin, more or less whitened beneath, usually two or three-lobed; flowers small paniced; petals purple or yellowish; fruit consisting of two berry-like seeds on thick stalks, blue with a whitish bloom.*



HERE the rich leaf-mould is thick on the ground, in deep woods, the odd blue cohosh loves to make its home. The small greenish-yellow or occasionally purple flowers, opening in May, are not likely to attract attention. But the large leaves, like those of the meadow-rue, are sure to catch the eye. Then, toward the end of summer, when the leaves of the cohosh are already yellowing, its berries, or rather seeds, turn a deep blue color. They are one of the prettiest sights of the woods at that season; often the bright scarlet berries of ginseng and low dogwood bear them company.

In the Northern States one may encounter the blue cohosh almost anywhere. As we go southward, it must be sought for in the mountains. There is another name for the plant, not often heard now—"papoose-root." The thick rootstock was much esteemed by the Indian medicine man. Perhaps anxious squaws were wont to administer decoctions of it to fractious papooses, afflicted with those aches and ills which red children, as well as white, cannot escape. In some places the plant is still believed to possess medicinal virtues.



— 19 —  
MALVA MOSCHATA.  
MUSK-MALLOW.  
AUGUST.



— 20 —  
TRIFOLIUM AGRARIUM.  
HOP CLOVER.  
JUNE—JULY.



PLATE 19.

MUSK-MALLOW. MALVA MOSCHATA. (MALLOW FAMILY.)

*Perennial; stem one or two feet high, hairy or nearly smooth; leaves petioled, palmately divided, the divisions lobed or cleft; flowers large, in the axils of the upper leaves and crowded toward the summit of the stem; petals pink or whitish; stamens and pistils united into a column.*



HE musk-mallow is European. In Great Britain it is a familiar object at waysides and in pastures. It has emigrated to North America and is now pretty well established in northern latitudes. Though a weed, it is not a hurtful one, and its pretty flowers entitle it to be thought well of by those who love to see the waste grounds decked with blossoms. The large rose-purple, pink or white petals, and the peculiar odor, suggestive of the perfume that gives it a name, distinguishes our plant among its less favored comrades, "tramps," as Burroughs calls the weeds. We are reminded of more highly-prized members of its family—the so-called althæa of the gardens, the showy abutilons and scarlet hibiscus so popular in conservatories, the marshmallow from whose gummy root choice confectionery is made, not to speak of the lovely callirrhoe and sidalceas of our western prairies.

The musk-mallow flowers in summer. Its musk-odor is not always to be detected. Two other European mallows, the round-leaved mallow or "cheeses" and the wood mallow, a plant with showy purple flowers often cultivated in old gardens, have become pretty well naturalized in this country.

PLATE 20.

HOP CLOVER. TRIFOLIUM AGRARIUM. (PEA FAMILY.)

*Stems erect or decumbent, branching from the base, smooth or slightly pubescent; leaves petioled, trifoliate, with prominent stipules; leaflets oblong, dentate, notched at apex; heads dense; flowers yellow, becoming brown and reflexed when old.*



is true yellow is not the color we usually associate with the clovers. "Clover" is more likely to call up visions of rich meadows red or white with the banquet tables of humble and honey-bee. Nevertheless, three kinds of foreign clover with distinctly yellow flowers have made themselves at home with us.

The hop-clover, so called because of the resemblance its heads bear to hops, is the largest and showiest of these. Widespread and abundant in Europe and in Asia, it is small wonder that this flower of civilization should have reached our shores.

Throughout the middle north and southward to Virginia, the bright sulphur-yellow heads gladden field and roadside, the flowers coming out from early summer until frost. Nothing could be finer than the color-contrasts on these plants, offering as they do every shade from the fresh yellow of the newly-opened blossoms to the rich brown of their full maturity and ripeness.

With the hop-clover two other kinds are often found, the low yellow-clover, much like it in appearance, and the quaint little hare's-foot or rabbit's-foot clover. This has long, soft, grayish heads, doubtless suggesting the pretty name which has come to us with the plant from England. The flowers themselves are pink, but are very small. All three of these clovers are worthless as forage. But they are considerate and keep to poor land where they do small harm, and pay the farmer an ample rent in their simple beauty.



— 21 —

AGROSTEMMA GITHAGO—(LYCHNIS GITHAGO).

CORN-COCKLE.

JULY.



— 22 —

LOBELIA CARDINALIS.

CARDINAL FLOWER.

JULY.



PLATE 21.

CORN-COCKLE. AGROSTEMMA (LYCHNIS) GITHAGO. (PINK FAMILY.)

*Annual; stem stout, erect, much branched, four angled, channeled, hirsute; leaves opposite with connate bases, linear-lanceolate, acute, rough and hairy; flowers solitary at the summit of the branches; calyx large, with linear lobes exceeding the corolla; petals five, crimson-purple.*



HERE are two flowers that grow with the grain in the corn fields of Europe and mingle their bright colors with the gladsome yellow of ripening wheat or barley. The rich scarlet of the poppy makes of the fields sheets of living flame. The crimson of the corn-cockles lends them a deeper but quite as pleasing hue. The less harmful poppy has come to America, but remains a foreigner. The cockle, sworn foe of the farmer, has usurped all the privileges of citizenship.

A handsomer plant than this same corn-cockle 'twould be hard to find on a summer day. The leaves are pale green with a tinge of blue, while the blossoms blend crimson and magenta into a most charming combination. But with all its beauty, the plant is a sore pest. Being mixed with grain, it has an excellent opportunity to spread over the whole country—an opportunity whereof it avails itself to the full. The seeds are black, and when mixed with wheat, mar in its flour the snowy purity for which the miller toils. It is well nigh impossible to oust the weed from a field of growing grain.

The agrostemma is nearly related to lychnis, of which several species have long been cultivated in our gardens.

PLATE 22.

CARDINAL FLOWER. LOBELIA CARDINALIS. (LOBELIA FAMILY.)

*Three or four feet high, stem erect, grooved, smooth or slightly pubescent; leaves alternate, ovate-lanceolate, irregularly and rather coarsely dentate, acute at each end, on short petioles; flowers in a long, terminal raceme; corolla deep carmine, very irregular; stamens and pistils cohering. Perennial by off-sets.*



HITTIER, one of the best and most observant of our nature-poets, has thus sung the cardinal flower :

“The red pennons of the cardinal flowers.  
Hang motionless upon their upright stems.”

Because its place is almost at the end of the floral procession which year by year takes its way through the fields, because, too, of its noble beauty, this is always a favorite among our wild flowers. Who does not feel a thrill of admiration as he approaches the margin of a streamlet and beholds it, erect and soldier-like in its uniform of deepest red, guarding the bank? No old world bog or brookside can boast such a defender. This country excels in the floral beauty that thus speeds the parting year. What autumn wild flowers can Europe place beside our asters, golden-rods and gentians?

Vivid red is not a common hue among our flowers. The scarlet catch-fly and the cardinal flower, one at the beginning, the other at the end of summer, are almost alone in color. What odd blossoms has the cardinal flower! They are said to be fashioned for the visits of humming birds. That is why, we are told, the lip hangs down, for the humming-bird does not rest on the flower but poises herself on the wing while sipping nectar. Bees also visit the cardinal flower, but thieve the honey through a slit at the base of the blossom, and so shirk the toll they should pay in fertilization.





— 23 —  
 AQUILEGIA CANADENSIS.  
 COLUMBINE.  
 MAY—JUNE.



— 24 —  
 MEDEOLA VIRGINIANA.  
 INDIAN CUCUMBER ROOT.  
 JUNE.

PLATE 23.

COLUMBINE. *AQUILEGIA CANADENSIS*. (CROWFOOT FAMILY.)

*Roots thickened, woody; stems clustered, branching, smooth; lower leaves on long petioles, twice or thrice compound, the upper nearly sessile, two or three lobed or entire; leaflets variously lobed or cleft, glaucous beneath; flowers at the ends of the branches, scarlet and yellow; sepals comparatively inconspicuous, petals prolonged behind into spurs. Perennial.*

**F**OR wild grace, for untrammelled native beauty, no flower surpasses our columbine. Making its home on rugged cliffs, softening their gray harshness, it is a very Samaritan of flowers. Plants that spring from the fatness of rich, moist mould have nothing of the ethereal charm of this shy denizen of the crag. The columbine, striking root deep into narrow clefts and bidding defiance to the storm-king, awakes the glow of praise that pluck and courage kindle ever. There is something almost human about such plants.

"A wild-rose, a rock-loving columbine  
Salve my worst wounds."

The blossoms of the columbine are fashioned in curious wise. The five cornucopia-like petals pointing backward, "horn of honey," "water-holders," as the name *Aquilegia* signifies, give a distinctive character to the plant. They are scarlet without, lined on the inner side with bright yellow. The foliage is pretty and delicate, harmonizing well with the graceful flowers.

Insects do not seem to be attracted to the store of sweets at the ends of the long spurs. "There is honey in the columbine," writes Burroughs, "but the bees do not get it. I wonder they have not learned to pierce its spurs from the outside, as they do with dicentra."

PLATE 24.

INDIAN CUCUMBER ROOT. *MEDEOLA VIRGINIANA*. (LILY FAMILY.)

*Stem erect from a thickened rootstock, bearing loose wool but otherwise smooth; leaves in two whorls, the lower of seven to nine, the upper of three to five ovate-lanceolate, acute, net-veined leaves; flowers on reflexed pedicels in an umbel-like cluster subtended by the upper whorl; sepals greenish yellow, reflexed.*



**H**ERE is another characteristic plant of North America, a dweller in its western forests. Naught has it in common with Europe and her civilization. The Indian cucumber is a common plant of deep woods in this country. In the southern stretches of its home the greenish, insignificant flowers commence to open as early as May, while further north they are found blossoming late in summer. It is a remarkably well-built plant, a very pattern of symmetry. The leaves are in two clusters, one at the middle, one at the top of the stem where the cluster of flowers arises. An odd feature is the cottony down which occurs on the stem and leaves, seemingly quite loose. Doubtless this is a protection for the budding plant when it first peeps above the ground. Thence it is carried up with the stem as it grows. The rootstock is white, but the resemblance to a cucumber is not striking.

Because it was once supposed to have great medicinal powers, *Medeola* is named for Medea, the enchantress, whom Jason bore away from Colchis in his famous ship the *Argo*. It is a near relation of the beautiful trilliums, and belongs to a family that boasts many of our most handsome native and cultivated plants.



PLATE 25.

CAT-MINT. *NEPETA CATARIA*. (MINT FAMILY.)

*Not seldom four feet high, stem stout, angled, hairy, often purple; leaves on conspicuous petioles, ovate, heart-shaped, coarsely and sharply dentate, hoary, pubescent beneath; flowers in axillary clusters, the uppermost forming an interrupted compound raceme; corolla two-lipped, whitish with red-purple spots.*



EVERYONE is familiar with this homely plant that loves to establish itself near human dwellings, and is rarely found far from the haunts of men. It is one of the most domestic of weeds, which is quite proper, for is it not the special property of a useful domestic animal? Who can explain tabby's fondness for the cat-mint? Why does its odor tickle her fastidious taste, while that of nearly related plants fails to attract her attention? We do not know. But we do know that from time immemorial, catnip and the cat have been fast friends.

There are many weeds with ugly and uninviting exterior, yet holding secrets of rare beauty for those who deign to look closer. The cat-mint is one of these. It is not a handsome plant, perhaps, yet the small white purple-spotted flowers disclose much beauty when viewed through a pocket lens.

In a delightful little chapter on bees, John Burroughs shows the cat-mint in a new light—as a source of honey. “Among weeds, catnip is the great favorite (of bees). It lasts nearly the whole season and yields richly. It could, no doubt, be profitably cultivated in some localities, and catnip honey would be a novelty in the market. It would probably partake of the aromatic qualities of the plant from which it was derived.”

PLATE 26.

INDIAN TOBACCO. *LOBELIA INFLATA*. (LOBELIA FAMILY.)

*Annual; stem erect, usually much branched, hairy as the whole plant is; leaves sessile, the upper clasping, ovate, dentate; flowers axillary, the uppermost forming bracted terminal racemes; calyx veiny, inflated, the tube closely investing the ovoid pod; corolla rather small, bluish-white.*



SORRY reputation to give a plant! But thus old Erasmus Darwin, grandfather of the great Charles, describes a venomous West Indian species of lobelia in his quaint poem, “The Loves of the Plants”:

“And fell Lobelia's suffocating breath,  
Loads the dark pinion of the gale with death.”

Although by no means so harmful as this, the Indian tobacco has certainly an ill reputation among plants. It possesses to a marked degree the narcotic properties shared by all the lobelias, and was once highly thought of as a drug. It has an unpleasant, bitter taste when chewed.

The Indian tobacco is cousin-german to our beautiful cardinal-flower, though the relationship might not be guessed at the first glance. Yet the small, pale blue blossoms of the one, and the showy, red flowers of the other, are built on one and the same plan. Another relative of our plant is the great blue lobelia that ornaments marshes and ditches in the fall. Some tropical species are extremely handsome, and are much prized in cultivation.

Lobelia was named in honor of De L'Obel, an old botanist of Flanders, whose works are curiosities of the literature of plants. The lobelia inflata is common over a great part of North America, flowering late in summer.



— 25 —  
 NEPETA CATARIA.  
 CAT-MINT.  
 JUNE—JULY.



— 26 —  
 LOBELIA INFLATA.  
 INDIAN TOBACCO.  
 JULY.



PLATE 27.

LIVE-FOREVER. *SEDUM TELEPHIUM*. (ORPINE FAMILY.)

*Whole plant smooth and fleshy; stem erect, more or less branching, leafy; leaves sessile, oblong or ovate, obtuse, dentate; inflorescence cymose, dense, terminating the stem and branches; flowers showy, purple; petals five in number; stamens ten. Perennial.*



WE have no native plant so nearly indestructible as garden orpine or live-forever, which our grandmothers nursed and for which they are cursed by many a farmer. The fat, tender, succulent door-yard stripling turned out to be a monster that would devour the earth. I have seen acres of meadow-land destroyed by it. The way to drown an amphibious animal is to never allow it to come to the surface to breathe, and this is the way to kill live-forever. It lives by its stalk and leaf, more than by its root, and if cropped or bruised as soon as it comes to the surface it will in time perish. It laughs the plough, the hoe, the cultivator to scorn, but grazing herds will eventually scotch it."

Mr. Burroughs is writing in an uncharitable vein unusual to him, when he thus describes the live-forever. It is rare for him to talk of the worst weeds without finding something worthy of admiration to show us. Has this, then, no redeeming trait? It is, at least, a pretty plant, with its purple flower-clusters. When kept in its proper sphere, it is by no means to be despised. It is a native of Europe and Siberia. With us it flowers in late summer.

PLATE 28.

BRANCHING WOOD-VIOLET, CANADA VIOLET. *VIOLA CANADENSIS*. (VIOLET FAMILY.)

*Its stems erect or ascending from a rootstock, branching, sometimes two feet high, smooth, leafy; leaves broadly ovate, cordate, acute at apex, coarsely dentate-serrate, the lower on long petioles, the uppermost almost sessile, stipules conspicuous; flowers on slender, axillary peduncles; petals white, veined with blue.*



FEW of our wild flowers hold a higher place in our affections than do the violets. Perhaps, as has been said, this is partly due to an hereditary fondness for the English violet, which possesses warm fragrance in addition to its other claims to admiration. One or two of our white violets have a slight perfume, but even the odorless kinds are beautiful. The common blue violet, the rich bird's foot, the small yellow violet—all are "passing fair."

"Blossoms newly born  
Of the May and of the morn,"

one of our poets sings.

The Canada violet with its blue-veined white petals flushed with pink outside, is one of the most bewitching of its family. It is a tall violet, growing in deep, rich woods in the northerly zones of our country, and also in the mountains southward. It blooms from May until late in the summer. Like the bland violet it has sometimes a delicate odor. In this, as in most of the violets, the side petals are bearded. This serves as a resting-place for the bees that fertilize the flowers while exploring them for honey; the flower making a bid, as it were, for Master Bec's visits by offering him a seat to work at.



— 27 —  
 SEDUM TELEPHIUM.  
 LIVE-FOR-EVER.  
 AUGUST.



— 28 —  
 VIOLA CANADENSIS.  
 BRANCHING WOOD-VIOLET.  
 MAY.



PLATE 29.

PAINTED TRILLIUM. TRILLIUM ERYTHROCARPUM. (LILY FAMILY.)

*Stem simple, erect from a short, thick, oblique rootstock, bearing a whorl of three leaves and a single flower; leaves short-petioled, broadly ovate, rounded at base, conspicuously pointed; flowers peduncled; sepals three, lanceolate, green; petals three, ovate-lanceolate, white or pale pink with darker markings at base.*



XCEPT for three or four species native to the Himalayas and Japan, the trilliums or wake-robins belong to North America. Few choicer flowers adorn our forests. They are odd plants, with the whorl of three leaves and the single large flower. Sometimes the flower is stalked, sometimes not.

The painted trillium is the most delicately beautiful of them all. The dark green leaves set off to great advantage the white or pale-pink petals, exquisitely penciled with deep wine-color. It is a shy plant, confining itself to cold moist woods and bogs. It occurs in the Northeastern States and Canada, and southward on the high peaks of the Blue Ridge and the Alleghanies to Georgia. It is also found sparingly as far west as Missouri. The flowers open in April and May.

The trilliums are rarely fragrant. One kind, the erect trillium or bath-flower has a decidedly unpleasant, almost fetid odor. But there is a form of the sessile trillium in the Southern States which has lemon-colored, deliciously fragrant petals. There is one curious thing about the trilliums. The petals are very apt to turn into foliage leaves, especially in rainy weather. This supports the theory that petals were originally leaves.

PLATE 30.

INDIAN TURNIP. ARISÆMA TRIPHYLLUM. (ARUM FAMILY.)

*Corm thick and round, stem erect, the base enveloped in sheathing scales, bearing one or two foliage leaves; leaves long petioled, consisting of three ovate-oblong, pointed leaflets; flowers borne in a peculiar, spike-like inflorescence, the spadix, protected by a greenish or purplish, hood-shaped floral leaf, the spathe. Perennial.*



SPRING is well within its threshold when we meet the preacher in our woodland rambles. How quaint he is in his high canopied pulpit! The bell-flower tolls to church. The sermon begins, we would like to understand what it is about. Surely the text must be love and beauty, for what else could the woodland pastor discourse on in the glad May-time?

The preacher-in-the-pulpit or Indian turnip belongs to a group of plants that comprises some of our finest and most interesting flowers—the golden club, the skunk-cabbage and the shy calla. Here, too, we find the showier Egyptian calla of the greenhouses. But our own “preacher” has a certain rustic grace about him that yields the palm to no exotic. What could be daintier than the curl of the green or purple and striped and mottled flower-leaf that shelters so cozily the spike of flowers within? In the fall, when the flowers have become a cluster of bright red berries, it is still a striking plant.

The corm is somewhat like a turnip in shape, hence one of the names. In May or June the plant may be met with in almost every fertile wood from Canada to Florida and westward beyond the Mississippi.



— 29 —

TRILLIUM ERYTHROCARPUM.  
PAINTED TRILLIUM.  
MAY—JUNE.



— 30 —

ARISÆMA TRIPHYLLUM.  
INDIAN TURNIP.  
MAY.



PLATE 31.

HAREBELL. *CAMPANULA ROTUNDIFOLIA*. (BELL-FLOWER FAMILY.)

*Stems usually clustered from a creeping rootstock, simple or branching, smooth; root leaves rounded, often heart-shaped, on slender petioles; stem leaves linear, the upper very narrow; flowers few on rather long stalks; calyx-lobes very narrow; corolla blue, campanulate. Perennial.*



RACEFUL, and fragile, divinely fair, is the harebell. Its flowers are of brightest, purest blue, like a summer sky new-washed by a thunder-shower. Few wild flowers have been more praised and loved by bards than this. It has all the sweet innocence, the heaven-born modesty, of the daisy, "wee crimson-tippit flower," and it has a supple grace that the daisy lacks. A field pink-starred with daisies is a pretty sight, but the bank "where swing the azure bells" is fairer still.

The harebell is native in the northern or more elevated central parts of Europe, Asia and North America, circling the northern pole. It has the true bright but delicate beauty of a flower of cold climates. With us it extends across the continent, confined to the northern parts in the East, but going far southward along the Rockies. It is a shy plant here, but in England ventures out into pastures and roadsides, not having to fear the scorching heat of the American summer. The dainty bells open here in June and July. The style protrudes from the flower like a miniature clapper.

The *campanula divaricata*, which grows on cliffs in the mountains of Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee, has smaller flowers than the harebell, and they are more truly bell-shaped.

PLATE 32.

SPOTTED TOUCH-ME-NOT. *IMPATIENS BIFLORA* (FULVA). (BALSAM FAMILY.)

*Annual; stem smooth, fleshy, much branched; leaves petioled, oblong-ovate or ovate, crenate, glaucous; flowers of two sorts, one kind small and never opening (cleistogamous), but producing seed; the other large and showy, usually sterile, having four sepals, one of them enlarged into a spurred sac, and two small petals.*



WANDERING along the shaded bank of a brook in the evening or in the early morning, we come upon a strange plant with the edges of its leaves all hung with dewdrops as with gems of purest water. This is the jewel-weed or touch-me-not. Its flowers are beautiful and very odd. One of the sepals is enlarged into a sac something like the lip of the moccasin-flower. This ends in a spur that is curved on itself, like the tail of a monkey. The flower looks curiously alert, as if it were on the point of flying. The color is a rich orange, spotted with brownish-red. It is not these large showy blossoms that usually produce seed. That is left to small flowers like buds, that never open. The seed-pods are so constructed that, when ripe, a slight touch will cause them to burst with force, scattering the seed to quite a distance. Hence the name "touch-me-not," or "noli-me-tangere." The French call the plant "n'y touchez pas."

Our spotted touch-me-not is beginning to grow wild along streams in southern England, so we are making some return for the many plants we have received from the old world. This flower is entirely dependent on the humming-bird and on an occasional insect for fertilization, for the pollen falls before the stigma is ready to receive it.



— 31 —

CAMPANULA ROTUNDIFOLIA.  
HAREBELL.  
JUNE—JULY.



— 32 —

IMPATIENS BIFLORA—(IMPATIENS FULVA).  
SPOTTED TOUCH-ME-NOT.  
JUNE.



# WARNING

Subscribers are warned against the danger of losing any of the parts or series of the "Wild Flowers of America," as it is impossible to buy them, and no guarantee can be given that missing numbers may be supplied.

The index and many chapters of absorbing interest upon the marvels of plant life and curious facts about flowers, all appropriately and profusely illustrated, will be given with the last part, and all holders of previous parts will be entitled to them without extra cost, to bind with their volumes.



